Import of rapeseed and vegetable oils

379. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rapeseed and other vegetable oils imported by the S.T.C. in 1987-88 and amount of foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) the names of the countries where from it had been imported; and

(c) the quantity allotted and actually distributed to each State and the details of amount charged by the S.T.C. per tonne from the State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) During oil year 1987-88 (November, 87 to January, 88) STC has imported 5.79 lakh tonnes of edible oil valued at Rs. 269.59 crores.

(b) The names of the countries from which edible oils are normally shipped are as follows:

Oil	Countries
Soyabean Oil	USA, Brazil, Argentina and Europe
Rapeseed Oil	Canada, Europe, China
Palm Oil/Palmolein	Malaysia & Indonesia

(c) A statement indicating the allocation and lifting of edible oils to/by the States/UTs during oil year 1987-88 is attached. [*See* Appendix CXLV. Annexure No. 16]. The Central issue price of imported edible oils for supply to State under PDS w.e.f. 23-12-87 is as under:—

For PDS in bulk	Rs. 11,000 PMT.
for PDS in tins	Rs. 12,500 PMT

Setting up of All India Radio Station at Asansol in West Bengal

380. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has so far been made in regard to the setting up of All India Radio Station at Asansol in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) A site measuring 4 acres has been selected for the setting up of the proposed radio station at Asansol. The site belongs to the Defence Department who have been requested to hand over the site for implementing this scheme.

The scheme envisages the setting up of a 2X3 KW FM transmitter, multi-purpose studios, receiving facilities and staff quarters. The proposed radio station is expected to be ready for commissioning during 1990, provided the site is available by March/April, 1988.

Rise in the prices of Essential Commodities

381. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been rise in prices of essential commodities during the recent past; and